

City Council is on the precipice of approving a zoning change to allow a halal abattoir at 8076 Longwoods Rd, Lambeth – inside London city limits. By planning staff's own admission, **this would be the first abattoir ever approved by this Council** and Planning staff.

The application was sent back to Planning staff on May 30, 2017 and will come back to **Planning Committee on Monday, July 17** and then to **Council on Tuesday 25th July**.

This has largely been treated as a technical zoning discussion, pitted against concerned neighbours. Lost in this discussion is a potential decision to approve a slaughterhouse that will **murder thousands of sentient, loving, feeling animals** that definitely do not want to die. **Why do we love our pets and murder farm animals without regret?**

The proposal is for a halal abattoir for the Muslim community – **Council was misled** when told that Londoners have to go to Detroit or Toronto to get their halal meat. There are 13 halal abattoirs in the 519 areacode, including in Mt Brydges and Parkhill. Local supermarkets are well-stocked with halal flesh for profit (sadly).

Both the halal (Muslim) and kosher (Jewish) faiths call for the animal to be stabbed to death **without even any stunning of the poor innocent victim**. So while there will be blood on the hands of any Councillor approving any slaughterhouse, the nature of the crime will be even worse in this case.

The city is actively prosecuting the applicant for illegal livestock offences – it goes to court August 18th. The City so far says that that is a 'separate matter' with no bearing on the zoning application. How crazy is that? Imagine applying for a liquor licence with existing prosecutions pending against you – good luck! **Why doesn't the City defer the application till the resolution of the case?**

What will Planning Committee recommend at the next meeting? It's up in the air, hard to read at the last public meeting. Submissions for that meeting on July 17th have a deadline of July 10th, and **submissions can be emailed to PEC@LONDON.CA** And then how will Council (who have far more discretion to do what makes sense) vote?

A **petition** of over 1,000 people (so far) is being ignored by Council – why? Votes will be on the permanent record forever – **when their descendants look** through the archives to get a sense of who they are, this one decision will loom large among the many routine votes taken. **This website will be up permanently to record their votes** and actions, and will also be heavily used at the next election. It will either promote those who stood up for the animals and the overwhelming outrage of neighbours, or it will be there forever to **cast a dark shadow on their legacy**. **Imagine your great-grandkids** (who will no doubt be living in a plant-based cruelty-free world) doing a school project and finding

with horror great grandma voted FOR a barbaric backyard abattoir! I hope and am sure that Council will do the right thing.

Please email or call Councillors or the Planning Manager as noted below – these are good local people who haven't been told the whole story. Remind them of the petition that they are ignoring, the craziness of considering a zoning change for a man under prosecution, and especially remind them that approving an abattoir **puts the blood of innocents directly on their hands** and will be remembered at election time.

Thank you for reading this far - please visit

www.dotheyloveanimals.wordpress.com and preserve Council's legacy!

Rob McNeil